

# **The Nineteenth National African American Read-In**

**Sponsored by the Black Caucus of NCTE/4Cs**

**Sunday, February 3, 2008**

**Monday, February 4, 2008  
(For Schools)**

## **Supplemental List for Young Children and Young Adults**

The following list contains selected works for young children recommended by Black Caucus members. This is a starter list and not intended to be all inclusive. In addition to this list, we recommend the following resource for a list of books: *Black Issues Book Review*.



## Selected “Must Read” Books by African American Authors for Young Children

Recommended by Black Caucus Members  
Compiled by Sandra E. Gibbs

<u>AUTHOR</u>	<u>TITLE</u>
Barnwell, Ysaye M.	<i>No Mirrors in My Nana’s House</i> , Harcourt Brace & Co., 1998.
Belton, Sandra	<i>McKendree</i> , Greenwillow Books, 2000. Fiction
Bishop, Rudine Sims	<i>Wonders: The Best Children’s Poems of Effie Lee Newsome</i> , Boyds Mills Press, 1999. [Ages 4-8]
Bontemps, Arna W.	<i>Bubber Goes to Heaven</i> , Oxford University Press, 1998. [Ages 9-12]
Bontemps, Arna W. & Langston Hughes	<i>Popo &amp; Fifina</i> , Oxford University Press, 1932. Reissued 1993. Fiction
Boyd, Candy Dawson	<i>Breadsticks and Blessing Places</i> , Macmillan Children’s Book Group, 1985. (Children’s author. Plus any of her other works.)**
Bradby, Marie	<i>More Than Anything Else</i> , Orchard Books, 1996. Fiction [Ages 5-8]
Bray, Rosemary L.	<i>Martin Luther King</i> , Greenwillow Books, 1995. Biography
Bridges, Ruby	<i>Through My Eyes</i> , Scholastic Press, 1999. Autobiography
Bryan, Ashley	<i>Beautiful Blackbird</i> , Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2003.  <i>Ashley Bryan’s ABC of African American Poetry</i> , Simon & Schuster, 1997. Poetry  <i>Sing to the Sun</i> , HarperCollins Children’s Books, 1992. Poetry (Children’s author. Plus any of his other works. [Ages 4+]  <i>Turtle Knows Your Name</i> , Macmillan Children’s Book Group, 1989. Folklore
Burrowes, Adjoa J.	<i>Grandma’s Purple Flowers</i> , Lee & Low Books, Inc. 2000.



- Caines, Jeannette *Just Us Women*, Harper & Row Publishers, 1982. Fiction [Ages 6-10]
- Campbell, Bebe Moore *Sometimes My Mommy Gets Angry*, G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2003.
- Chocolate, Debbi *On The Day I Was Born*, Scholastic, 1995. Fiction [Ages 5-9]
- Clifton, Lucille *Three Wishes*, Doubleday, 1992. Fiction (Children's author. Plus any of her other works which include poetry for secondary and adult.)
- Coleman, Evelyn *Born in Sin*, Atheneum Books, 2004.
- To Be A Drum*, Albert Whiteman & Co., 1998. Folktale [Ages 4-8]
- White Socks Only*, Albert Whitman & Co., 1995. Fiction [Ages 8+]
- Crews, Donald *Cloudy Day, Sunny Day*, Harcourt Brace & Company, 1999.
- Curtis Christopher Paul *Bucking the Sarge*, Random House. 2004.
- Bud, Not Buddy*, Delacorte Press, 1999.
- The Watson Go To Birmingham—1963*, Bantam Dell, 1995. Fiction [Ages 5+]
- DeVeaux, Alexis *An Enchanted Hair Tale*, Harper & Row Publishers, 1987. [Ages 5-8]
- Draper, Sharon *Copper Sun*, Atheneum Books, 2006. [Ages 14+]
- Romiette and Julio*, Simon & Schuster, 1999.
- Forged By Fire*, Atheneum Books, 1997. [Ages 12+]
- Ziggy and the Black Dinosaurs: Lost in the Tunnel of Time*, Just Us Books, Inc., 1996. Fiction [Ages 12+]
- Ziggy and the Black Dinosaurs*, Just Us Books, Inc., 1994. [Ages 12+]
- English, Karen *Neeny Coming, Neeny Going*, Toll Communications, 1996.
- Farris, Christine King *My Brother Martin: A Sister Remembers Growing Up: With the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*, Simon &



- Schuster, 2003.
- Feelings, Tom  
& Muriel Feelings
- Flake, Sharon G.
- Flournoy, Vanessa  
& Valerie Flournoy
- Giovanni, Nikki
- Moja Means One: Swahili Counting Book*, Dial, 1987.  
Non-Fiction [Ages 4-8]
- The Skin I'm In*, Hyperion Books, 1998. [Ages 10+]
- Celie and the Harvest Fiddler*, Tambourine Books, 1995.  
Fiction [Ages 8-10]
- The Genie In The Jar*, Henry Holt & Company, 1996.  
Poetry [Ages 3-7]
- The Sun Is So Quiet*, Henry Holt & Company, 1996.  
Poetry [Ages 5-9]
- GrandMothers Poems, Reminiscences, & Short Stories  
about the Keepers of Our Traditions*, Henry Holt &  
Company, 1996.
- Shimmy Shimmy Shimmy Like My Sister Kate: Looking at  
the Harlem Renaissance through Poems*, Henry Holt &  
Company, 1996.
- Spin a Soft Black Song*, Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1987.  
Fiction [Ages 4-10]
- Giovanni, Nikki  
& Bryan Collier
- Greenfield, Eloise
- Rosa*, Henry Holt & Co., 2005.
- The Friendly Four*, Amistad, 2006. Poetry [Ages 4-8]
- When the Horses Ride By*, Lee & Low Books, 2006. Poetry
- In the Land of Words: New and Selected Poems*,  
HarperCollins, 2004 [Ages 4-8]
- I Draw a Weeposaur and Other Dinosaurs*, Greenwillow  
Press, 2001 [Ages 4+]
- Angels*, Hyperion Books, 1998.
- Easter Parade*, Hyperion Books, 1998. Fiction
- Nathaniel Talking*, Writers & Readers Publishing, 1988.  
Poetry [Ages 7-12]
- Honey, I Love & Other Love Poems*, HarperCollins  
Children's Books, 1986. [Ages 6-10] (Plus any of her other  
works.)



- Grimes, Nikki
- Danitra Brown Leaves Town*, HarperCollins, 2002.
- Stepping Out With Grandma Mae*, Orchard Books, 2001.
- Hopscotch Love: A Family Treasury of Love Poems*, Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Books, 1999. Poetry
- Come Sunday*, William B. Eerdmans Publishing, 1996. [Ages 5-8]
- From A Child's Heart*, Just Us Books, 1993. [Ages 3-5]
- Hamilton, Virginia
- Bluish*, Scholastic, Inc., 1999.
- Zeely*, Macmillan Publishing, 1987. Fiction [Ages 8-14]
- Hardrick, Jackie
- Imani in Never Say Goodbye*, Enlighten Publications, 2003.
- Imani in Young Love & Deception*, Enlighten Publications, 1999.
- Holman, Sandy Lynne
- We All Have a Heritage*, The Cultural C.O.O.P., 2002.
- Grandpa, Is Everything Black Bad?*, The Cultural C.O.O.P., 2000.
- Hudson, Cheryl  
& Wade Hudson (eds.)
- In Praise of Our Fathers and Our Mothers: A Black Family Treasury by Outstanding Authors and Artists*, Just Us Books, 1997.
- Hughes, Langston
- The Dream Keeper and Other Poems*, Alfred Knopf. Inc., 1994.
- Humphrey, Margo
- The River That Gave Gifts*, Children's Book Press, 1987. [Ages 5-8]
- Hunter, Kristin
- The Soul Brothers and Sister Lou*, The Women's Press, 1997.
- Johnson, Angela
- Looking for Red*, Simon Pulse, 2002.
- The Wedding*, Orchard Books, 1999.
- Toning the Sweep*, Scholastic, 1994. Fiction [Ages 12+]
- When I Am Old With You*, Orchard Books, 1990. [Ages 4-8]
- Johnson, Dolores
- What Kind Of Baby-Sitter Is This?*, Macmillan Publishing, 1991. [Ages 3-5]



- What Will Mommy Do When I'm at School*, Macmillan Publishing, 1990. [Ages 3-5]
- Johnson-Feelings, Dianne (ed.) *The Best of the Brownies Book*, Oxford University Press, 1996. (Original stories from *The Brownies Book*, a 1920's magazine for African American children.)
- Lee, Spike  
& Tonya Lewis Lee *Please, Baby, Please*, Simon & Schuster, 2002.
- Lester, Julius *The Blues Singers: Ten Who Rocked The World*, Hyperion Books, 2001. [Ages 10+]
- What A Truly Cool World*, Scholastic, 1999.
- John Henry*, Dial Books for Young Readers, 1994. Folktale
- Mathis, Sharon Bell *Ray Charles*, Lee & Low Books, 2001.
- McKissack, Patricia C. *Porch Lies: Tales of Slicksters, Tricksters, and Other Wily Characters*, Schwartz & Wade Books, 2006.
- Goin' Someplace Special*, Atheneum Books, 2001.
- Color Me Dark: The Diary of Nellie Lee Love, the Great Migration North*, Scholastic, 2000.
- Medearis, Angela Shelf *Poppa's New Pants*, Holiday House, 1995. (Plus any of her other works.)
- Medina, Tony *Love to Langston*, Lee & Low Books, 2002.
- Mendez, Phil *The Black Snowman*, Scholastic, 1989. [Ages 5-8]
- Mitchell, Margaree King *Uncle Jed's Barbershop*, Simon & Schuster, 1993.
- Morrison, Toni *Remember: The Journey to School Integration*, Houghton Mifflin, 2004.
- The Big Box*, Hyperion Books, 1999.
- Morrison, Toni  
& Slade Morrison *Book of Mean People*, Disney Press, 2002. Fiction
- Moses, Shelia *The Return of Buddy Bush*, McElderry Books, 2006.
- The Legend of Buddy Bush*, McElderry Books, 2004.
- Myers, Christopher *Black Cat*, Scholastic, 1999.
- Myers, Walter Dean *At Her Majesty's Request: An African Princess in Victorian*



- England*, Scholastic, 1999. History
- Brown Angels: An Album of Pictures & Verse*, HarperCollins Children's Books, 1993. (Plus any of his other works.)
- Pinkney, Andrea Davis
- Let It Shine: Stories of Black Women Freedom Fighters*, Harcourt, 2000.
- Duke Ellington, The Piano Prince and His Orchestra*, Hyperion Books, 1998. [Ages 5-9]
- Hold Fast to Dreams*, Morrow Junior Books, 1995. Fiction [Ages 10-12]
- Price, Hope Lynne
- These Hands*, Hyperion Books, 1999.
- Ringgold, Faith
- My Dream of Martin Luther King*, Crown Publishing, 1995.
- Dinner at Aunt Connie's House*, Hyperion Books, 1993.
- Aunt Harriet's Underground Railroad in the Sky*, Crown Publishing, 1992. Children (Plus any of her other works.)
- Tar Beach*, Crown Publishing, 1991. [Ages 4-9]
- Rollins, Charlemae Hill (ed.)
- Christmas Gift: An Anthology of Christmas Poems, Songs, & Stories, by and about African Americans*, William Morrow & Co., 1993.
- Rosales, Melodye Benson
- Minnie Saves the Day*, Little, Brown & Company, 2000.
- Leola and the HoneyBears*, Scholastic, 1999.
- 'Twas the Night B'fore Christmas: An African-American Version*, Scholastic, 1996.
- Samuels, Allison
- Christmas Soul: African American Holiday Stories*, Hyperion Books, 2001.
- Shange, Ntozake
- Ellington Was Not A Street*, Simon & Schuster, 2004.
- Smalls, Irene
- Don't Say Ain't*, Talewinds Books, 2003.
- Kevin and His Dad*, Little, Brown & Company, 1999.
- Irene Jennie & the Christmas Masquerade: The Johnkankus*, Little, Brown & Company, 1996. (Plus any of her other works.)
- Ebony Seas*, Longmeadow Press, 1995.



- St. James, Synthia *The Gifts of Kwanzaa*, Albert Whitman & Co., 1994.
- Step toe, James *In Daddy's Arms I Am Tall: African Americans Celebrating Fathers*, Lee & Low Books, 1997.
- Step toe, John *Stevie*, HarperCollins, 1986. [Ages 4-9]
- Tarpley, Natasha *I Love My Hair!*, Little, Brown & Company, 1998. [Ages 3-8]
- Taylor, Mildred D. *The Well: David's Story*, Dial Publishers, 1995. [Ages 8-12] (Plus any of her other works.)
- Thomas, Joyce Carol *The Angel's Lullaby*, Hyperion Books, 2000. [Ages 1-3]
- Brown Honey in Broomwheat Tea*, HarperCollins Children's Books, 1993. Poetry
- Turner, Glennette Tilley *Follow in Their Footsteps: Biographies of Ten Outstanding African Americans*, Cobblehill Books, 1997. Biography and Dramatic Skits
- Walter, Mildred Pitts *Second Daughter: The Story of a Slave Girl*, Scholastic, 1996. Fiction [Ages 12+]
- Williams-Garcia, Rita *Like Sisters on the Homefront*, Puffin Books, 1995. [Young Adult] (Plus any of her other works.)
- Woodson, Jacqueline *Show Way*, G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2005. [Ages 5+]
- The Other Side*, G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2001.
- Sweet, Sweet Memory*, Hyperion Books, 2000. [Ages 5-9]
- Lena*, Random House, 1999. Fiction [Young Adult]
- Wyeth, Sharon Dennis *A Piece of Heaven*, Random House, 2001.
- Something Beautiful*, Bantam Doubleday Dell, 1998.
- Yarbrough, Camille *The Little Tree Growin' in the Shade*, Putnam Publishing, 1996. Fiction [Ages 7-10]
- Cornrows*, Putnam Publishing, 1992. Fiction (Children's author)